# Cyber Tales by Tenali - a fortnightly series

## FAKE JOB OFFER SCAM



सम्मान आपके विश्वास का

**Honours Your Trust** 

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### What's Inside:

- 1. Introduction & Cover Story of Fake Job Offer Scam
- 2. How job-seekers are targeted
- 3. How this Scam works
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- 6. Preventive measures & Advisories



The rapid growth of Information and communication technology has completely changed the way of job search. Now, employment search begins online. But this also gives opportunities to

cybercriminals to trick job-seekers into scams.

In this Edition, I will narrate you about a more sophisticated scam owing to fake employment opportunities which has spiked this year due to the coronavirus pandemic.

## How Sonu was Trapped?

Many people lost their jobs in the crisis of Covid-19 pandemic and Sonu was one of them. He was very stressed after losing his job and was eagerly searching for a new job through internet.

One day, on internet, Sonu came across a Pop-Up Advertisement for a job opening.





Sonu immediately clicked the advertisement link.

## FAKE JOB OFFER SCAM... Contd



He submitted all the information in the website and received a confirmation message.



Very next day Sonu received another SMS in his mobile.





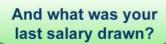
Oh yes. Thank you for giving me this opportunity.

So, Mr. Sonu What type of work experience you have?



Sir, I have little knowledge in Website designing & development with work experience of 6 months.

## FAKE JOB OFFER SCAM... Contd





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Sir, It was 10000/- per month.

In this company you will easily earn minimum of Rs.30000/- per month from your home.

Initially we will provide you an online training and for this you have to pay Rs.30000/- as security deposit.



This security deposit will be reversed back to you along with your first month salary.



Ok sir. That's not a problem.

After the interview, you will receive the job offer letter through email.

You have to pay the security deposit money by today itself through the link on the email.



Your on- the-job training will be started from tomorrow.



Thank you for selecting me Sir!

Wish you good luck!



Sonu received an email after some time.

From:HR XYZ Co <hrxyz@gmail.com>
Subject: Graphic Designer Job Offer
To: \*\*\*\*\*\*\*@gmail.com

#### Dear candidate.

You have been selected for the post of "Graphic Designer" at our XYZ Co. Your job offer letter is attached herewith.

Click Here to pay the security deposit money.

**Best Wishes!** 

Sonu made the payment of Rs.30000/-through his debit card.

Security deposit received. Schedule for on-the-job training will be sent to your registered email id.





But Sonu did not receive any email, SMS or Call for his job training from the company. He tried calling HR John personnel. but the mobile number was not reachable. Then suspicion rose in his mind and he called Tenali.

## FAKE JOB OFFER SCAM... Contd



Hello... Tenali...

Sonu, I can understand your situation. But, why did you made the payment on the basis of a mere Pop-Up Ad?



You have been trapped via Fake Job Offer!
Pop-Up Ad redirected you to a Fraudulent
website and captured your personal
information. Moreover, due to a Fake
Interview Call and Email you were lured to
make the payment of Rs 30,000/- to these
scamsters.



Oh. But, what should I

Immediately call the cybercrime police helpline and also lodge a complaint in National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal.



## WHAT IS A JOB SCAM?

Job frauds are a sophisticated fraud, wherein fictitious job opportunities are offered to job seekers. The main targets of these type of frauds are newly pass out students or those who have



lost their jobs in any crisis and are finding a quick / easy solutions for their income. This type of fraud is normally done through online services such as bogus websites, pop-up ads, unsolicited emails or SMSs claiming to be from known companies or brands etc. Typically, these types of fake offers ask money from the candidate in advance. Once the money is paid, the fraudulent company disappears.

## INDICATORS OF FAKE JOB OFFER

- · promises confirmed job
- guarantees huge amount of salary
- asks to pay money or advance before getting the job
- often says work at home or work as per convenience
- might offer government jobs via backdoor process
- Depicts an easy process without appearing in any examination or face-to-face interview.

## PREVENTIVE MEASURES TO AVOID JOB SCAM



- Do not trust on any unknown caller offering guaranteed job.
- Ignore malicious advertisements which offers for an easy process of making money without any effort.
- Do not respond to unsolicited emails or calls.
- Do not reveal sensitive information under such online ads without verifying the company.
- Pop-up Ads, Social Media Ads etc.
- Do some research on the company / organization before applying for a job.



In case you have fallen prey to any such fraud -REPORT IMMEDIATELY TO THE NEAREST CYBER CRIME POLICE STATION & NATIONAL CYBER CRIME REPORTING PORTAL

https://cybercrime.gov.in



## **IMPORTANT ADVISORY**

- Always check the official website of the organization directly for employment opportunities.
- There is an ability of a Web-browser to store and hold into information which you have searched for. Clear your browsing data and cookies regularly to protect your personal information.
- Clicking on malicious Ad can expose your device to malware.
  Always verify information from legitimate sources.